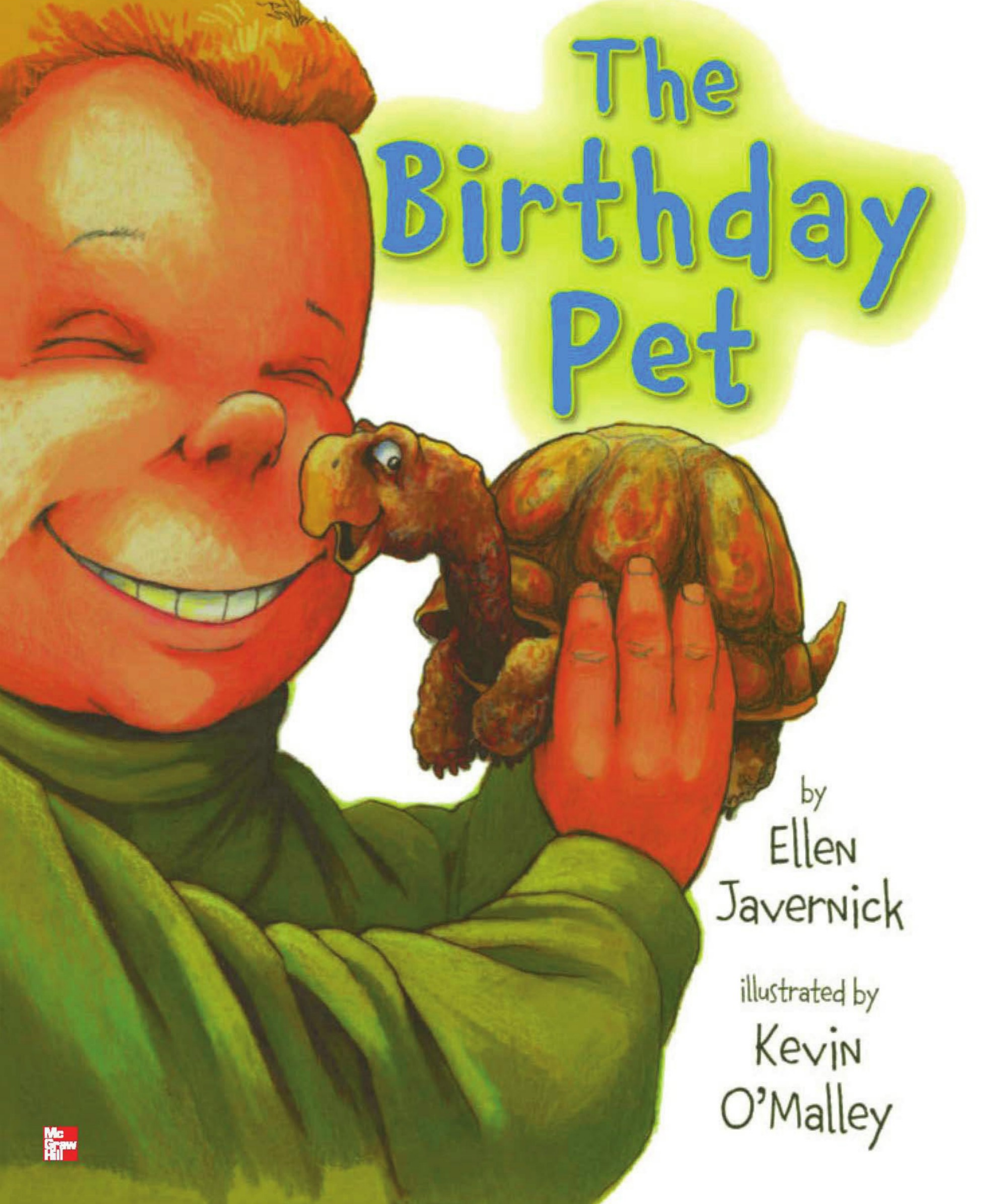


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The Birthday Pet

by
Ellen
Javernick

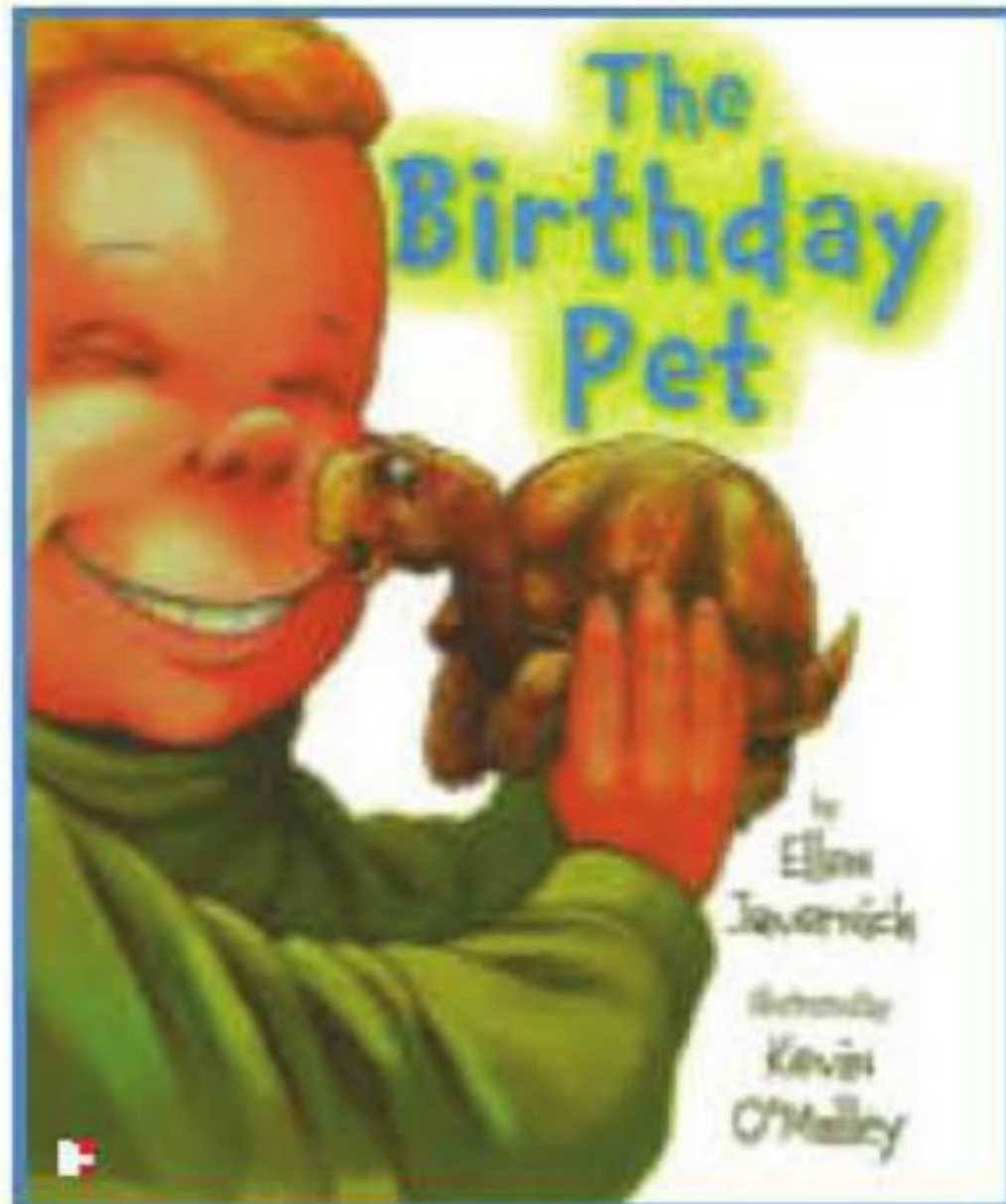
illustrated by
Kevin
O'Malley

Modeling Concepts of Print

- Track the print from left to right and top to bottom as you read each page. Remind children that when we get to the end of a line we move our finger down and to the left and start reading the next line. Model this for children and have them practice the return sweep.
- Point out the quotation marks in the first sentence on page I0 and review with children that these marks are used to set off what someone says. Have children point to the quotation marks in the last sentence. Then have them point to the question mark on page I0 and explain its meaning.
- Point out the three dots at the end of the first and last lines on page II and in the first line of page I2. Explain that three dots mean that there is a pause in the sentence, and sometimes the end of a sentence is on the next page.



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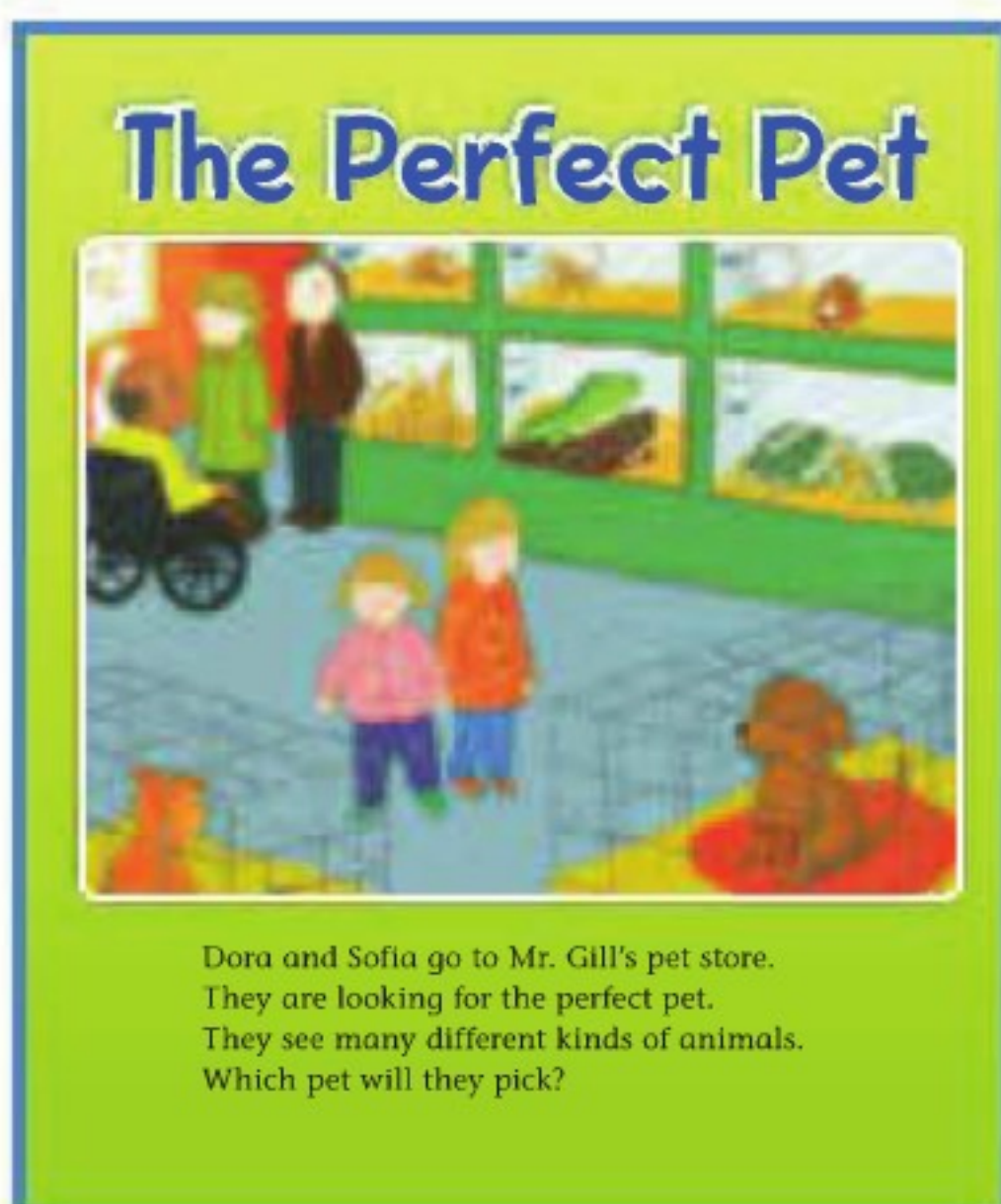
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Fiction

by Ellen Javernick

illustrated by Kevin O'Malley

Paired read



The Perfect Pet33

Fiction



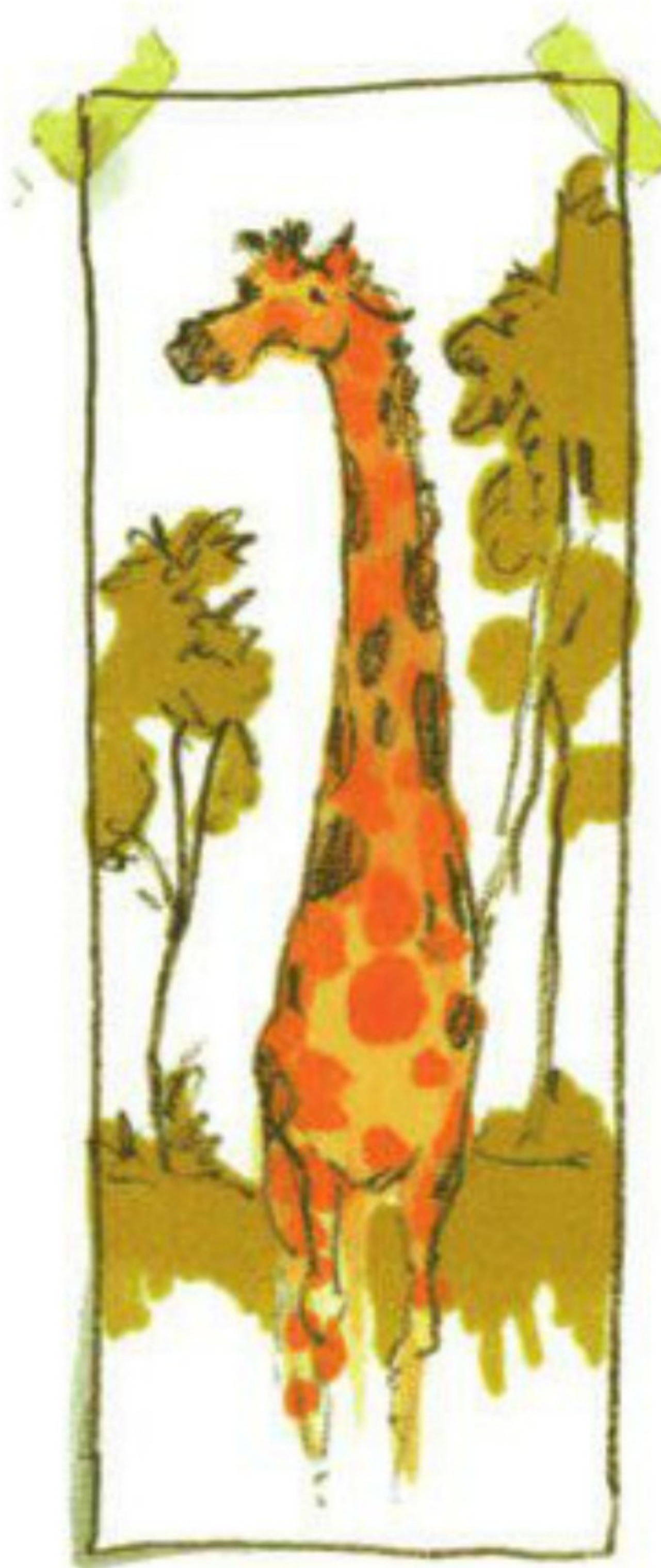
To the boys and girls from both Garfield and
Namaqua Elementary Schools

—E.J.

2, 4, 6, 8, who do I appreciate...

Anahid Hamparian,
Sensationnel Directeur Artisitique

—K.O.



The Birthday Pet

by Ellen Javernick

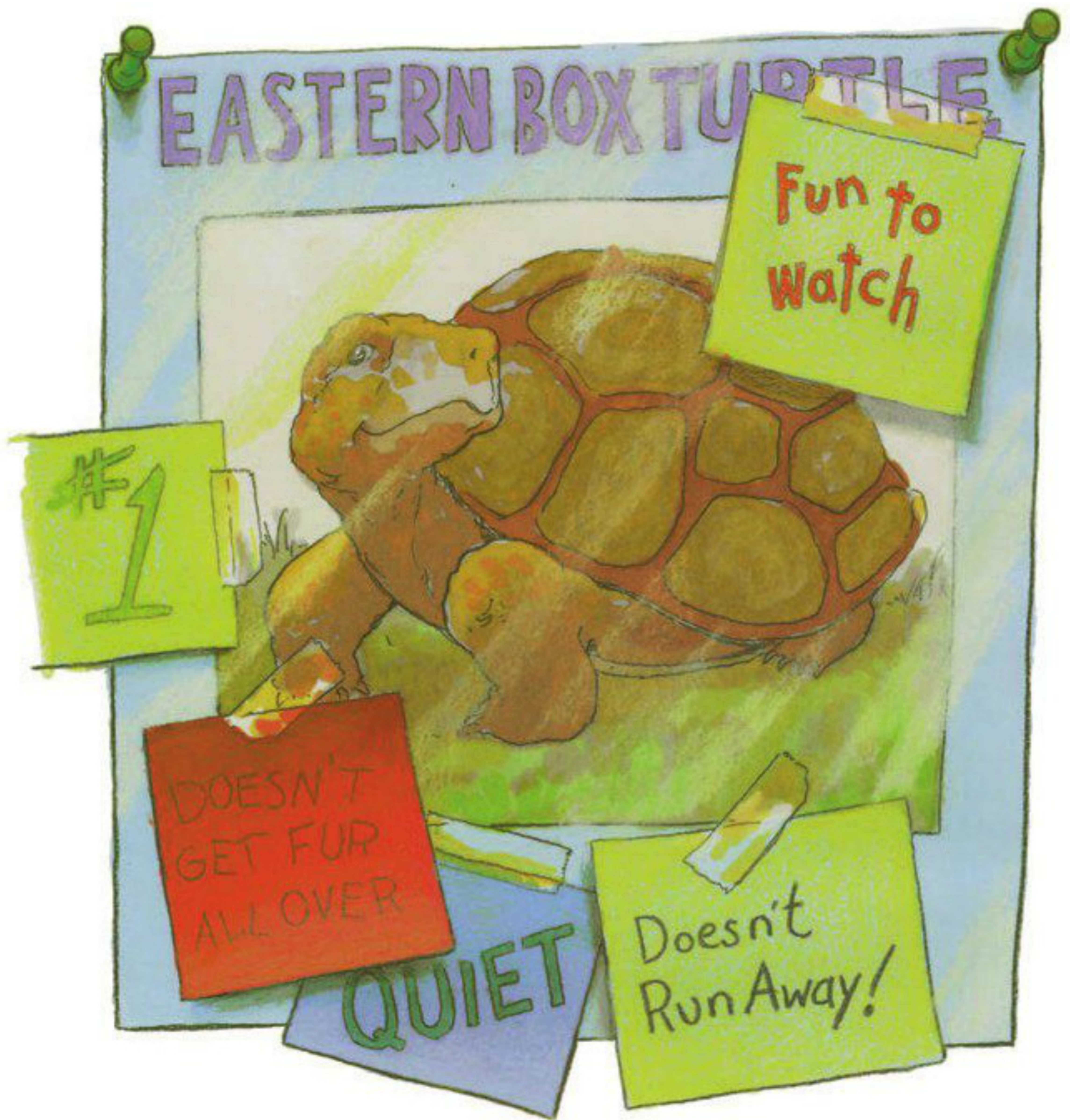
illustrated by Kevin O'Malley





It was Danny's birthday,
and his folks said he could get
any kind of animal
he wanted for a pet.





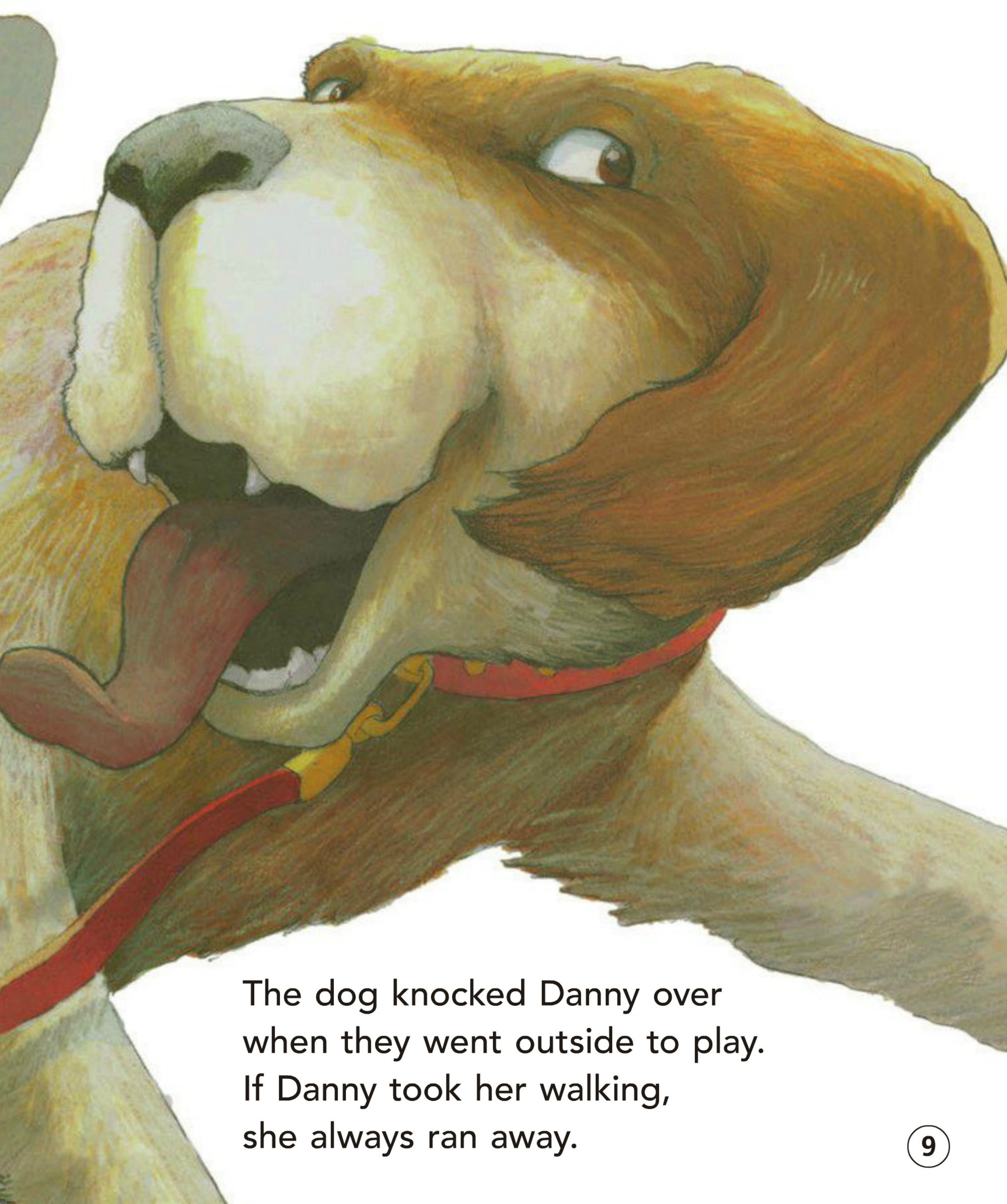
Danny thought it over
before he went to bed.
"All I really want
is a turtle," he said.

But instead . . .
Dad said,
“You don’t want a pet
that sits like a log.
So he went out and got Danny a . . .



... dog.





The dog knocked Danny over
when they went outside to play.
If Danny took her walking,
she always ran away.

"How's the dog?" asked his father.
Danny shook his head.
"All I really want
is a turtle," he said.

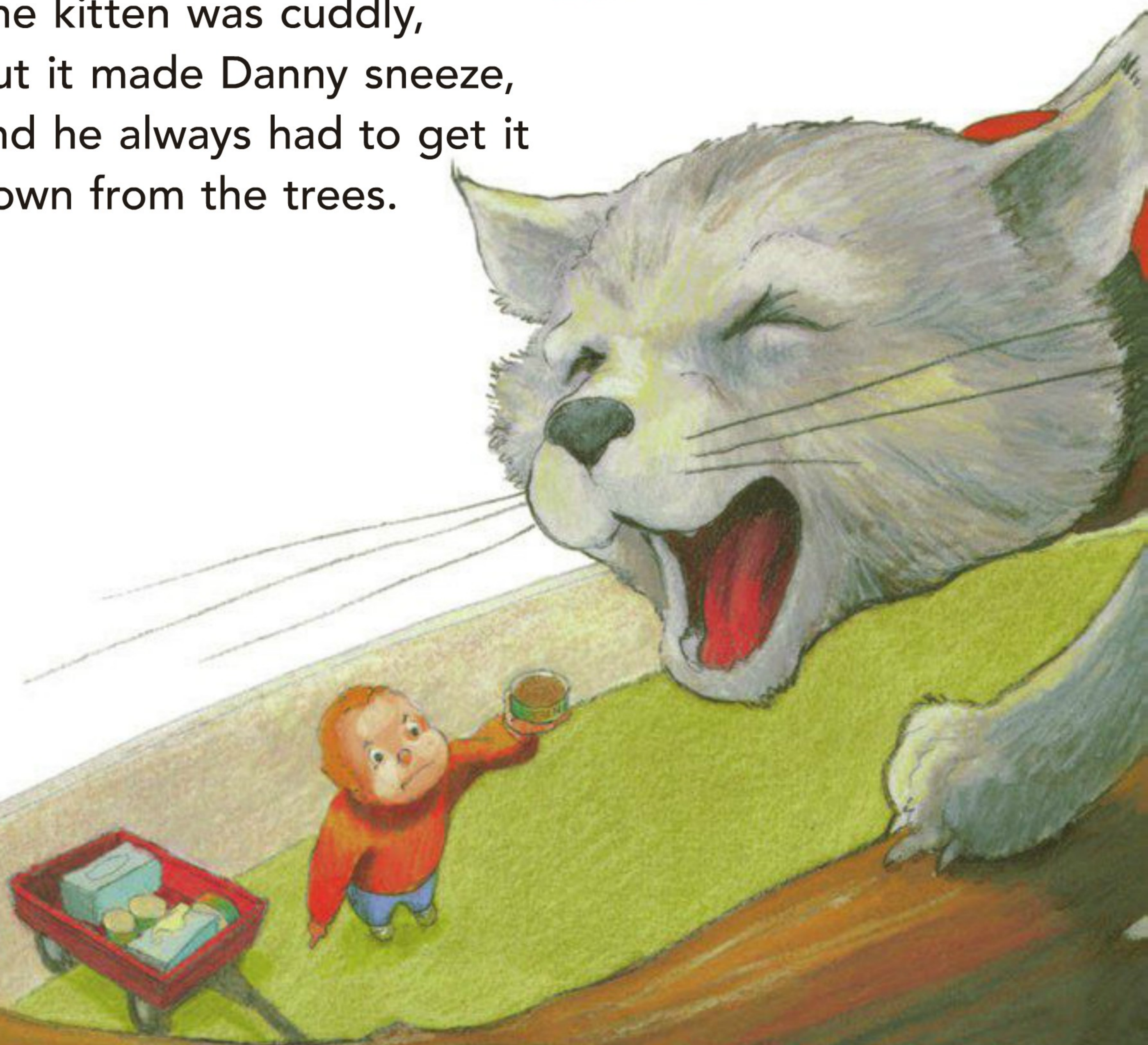




But instead . . .
Mom said,
"A turtle's not cuddly
or soft like a mitten.
So she went out and got Danny a . . .

... kitten.

The kitten was cuddly,
but it made Danny sneeze,
and he always had to get it
down from the trees.





"How's the kitten?" asked his mother.
Danny shook his head.
"All I really want
is a turtle," he said.

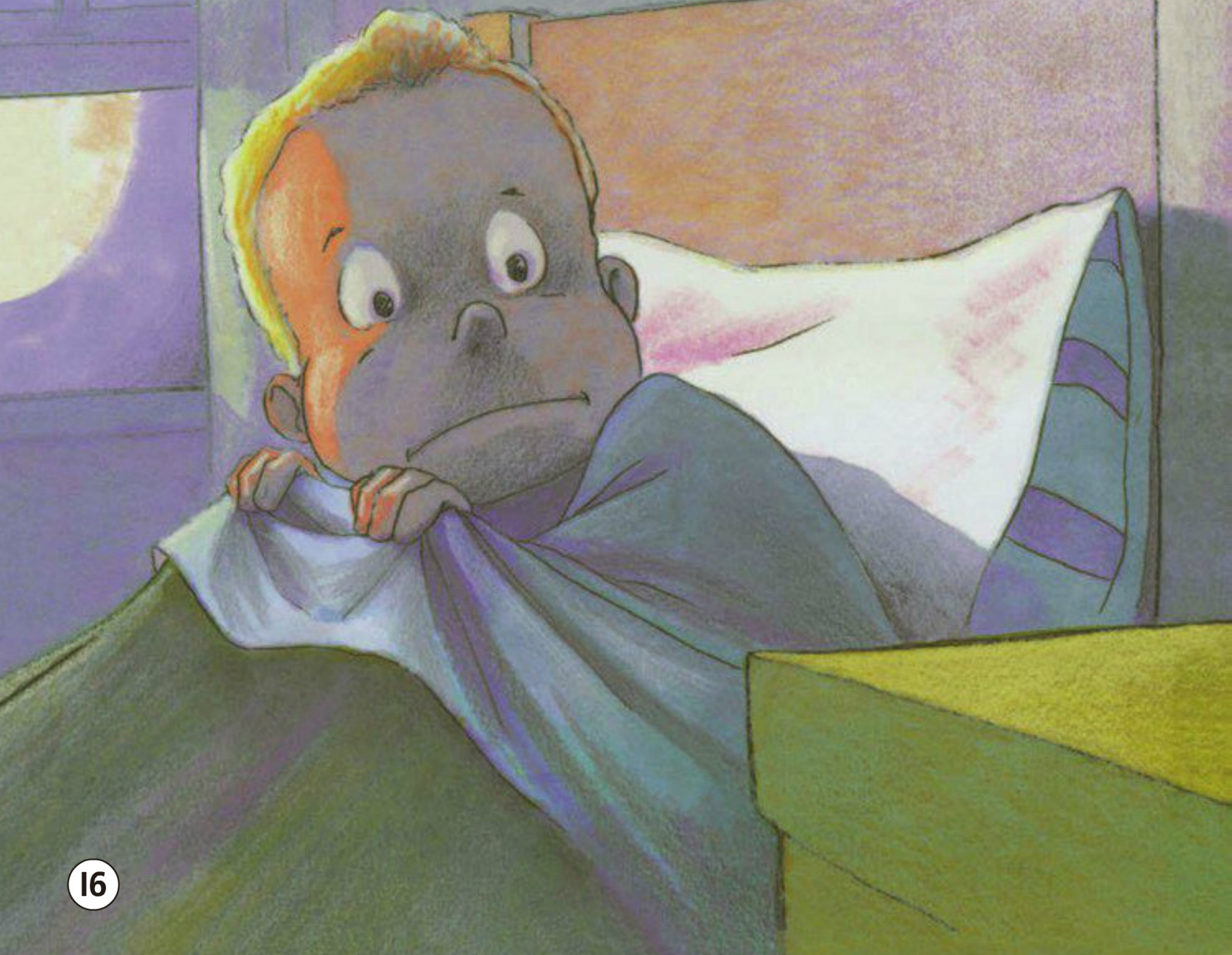




But instead . . .
his big brother said,
“You ought to pick a pet
more exciting than that.
So he went out and got Danny a . . .

... rat.

The rat's beady eyes
were a scary sight,
and the rat kept Danny up
when it gnawed in the night.





"How's the rat?" asked his brother.
Danny shook his head.
"All I really want
is a turtle," he said.





But instead . . .
his older sister said,
"You would like a turtle?
A turtle is absurd."
So she went out and got Danny a . . .

... bird.





The bird only nipped.
It didn't even talk.
It was sort of pretty,
but it had a nasty squawk.

"How's the bird?" asked his sister.
Danny shook his head.
"Not one of you listened
to anything I said!"



So instead...

his family got Danny a...

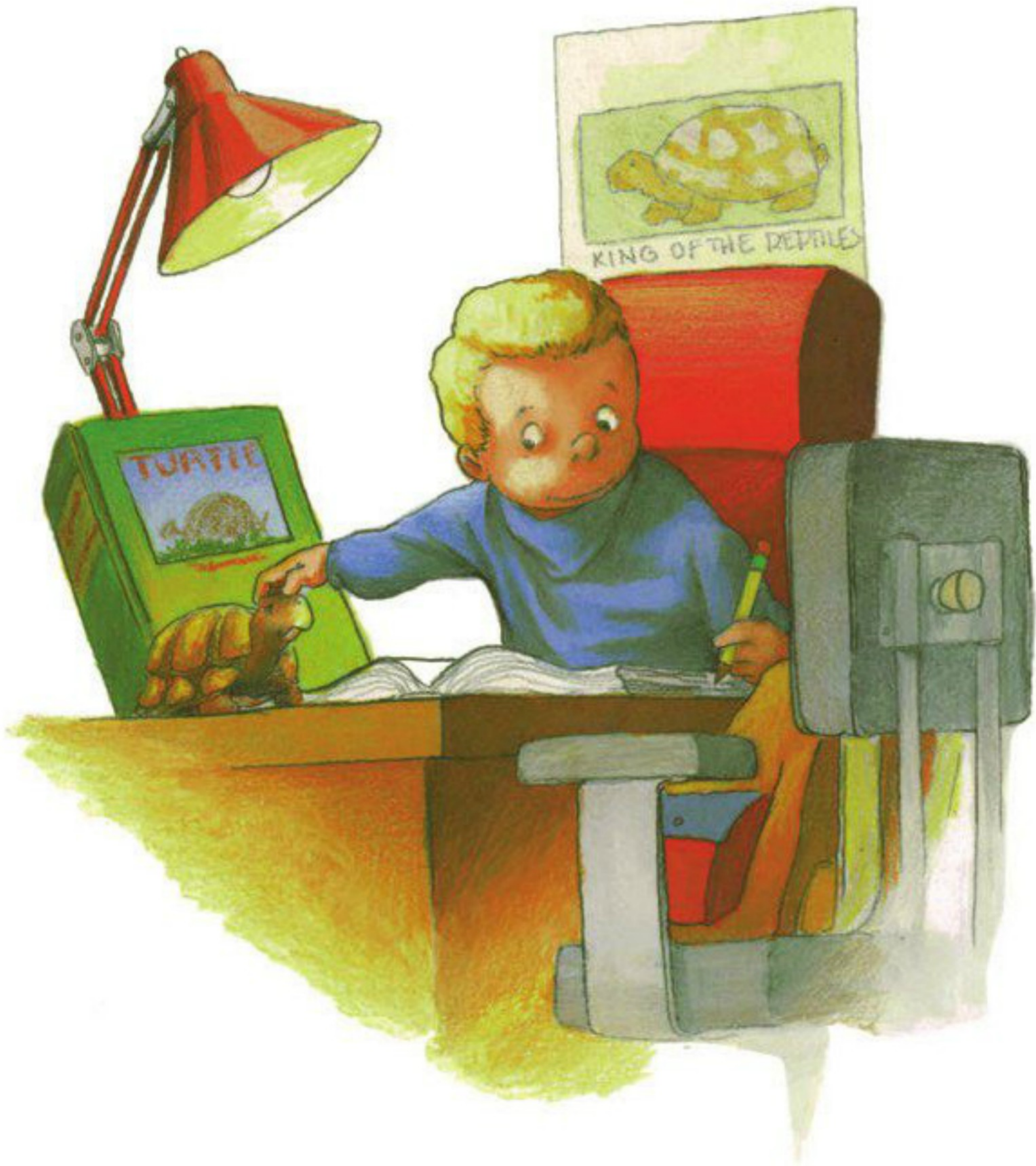
turtle . . .



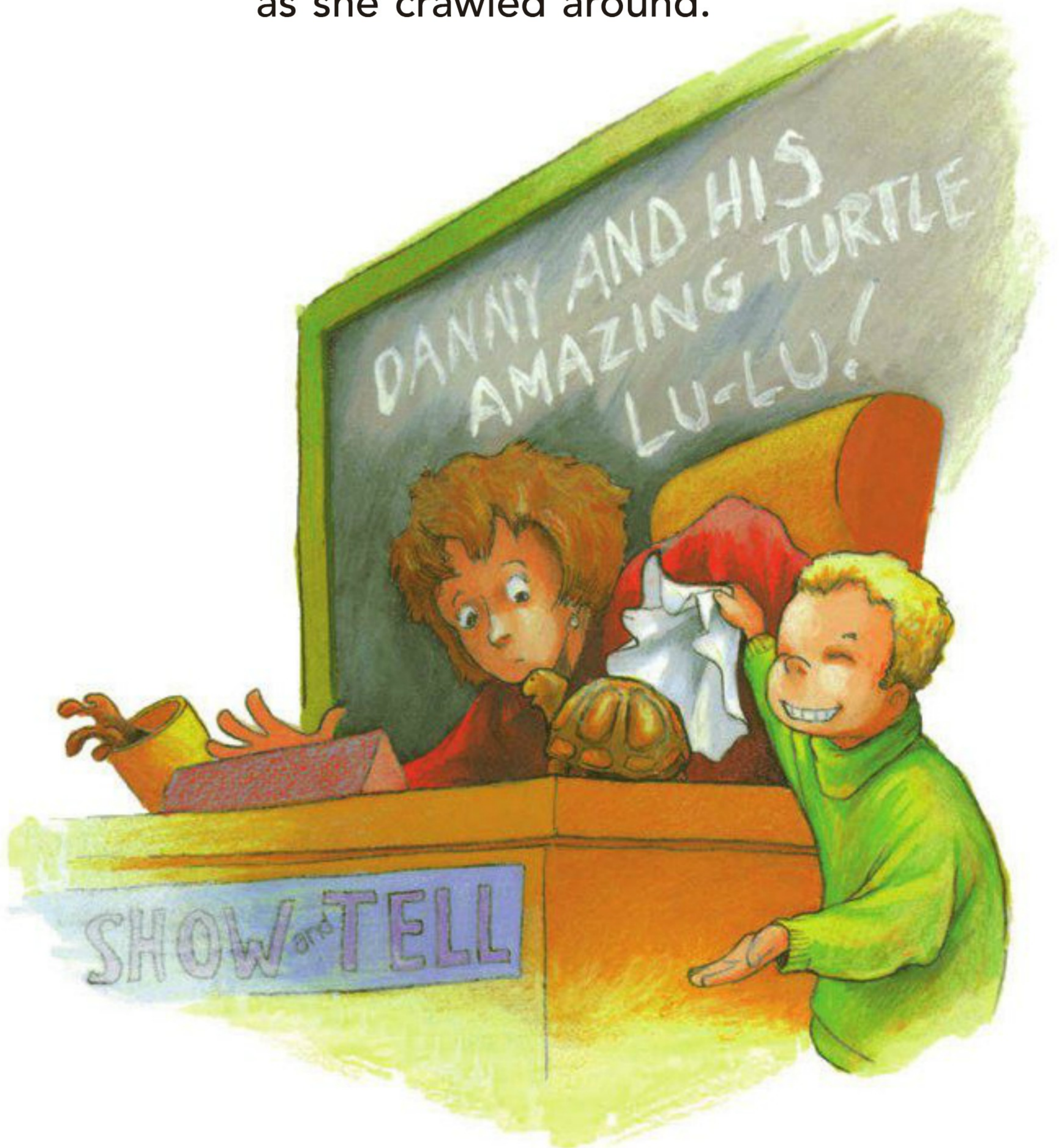


with a nice hard shell.
Danny couldn't wait
for his show-and-tell.

The turtle blinked her eyes
and never made a sound.



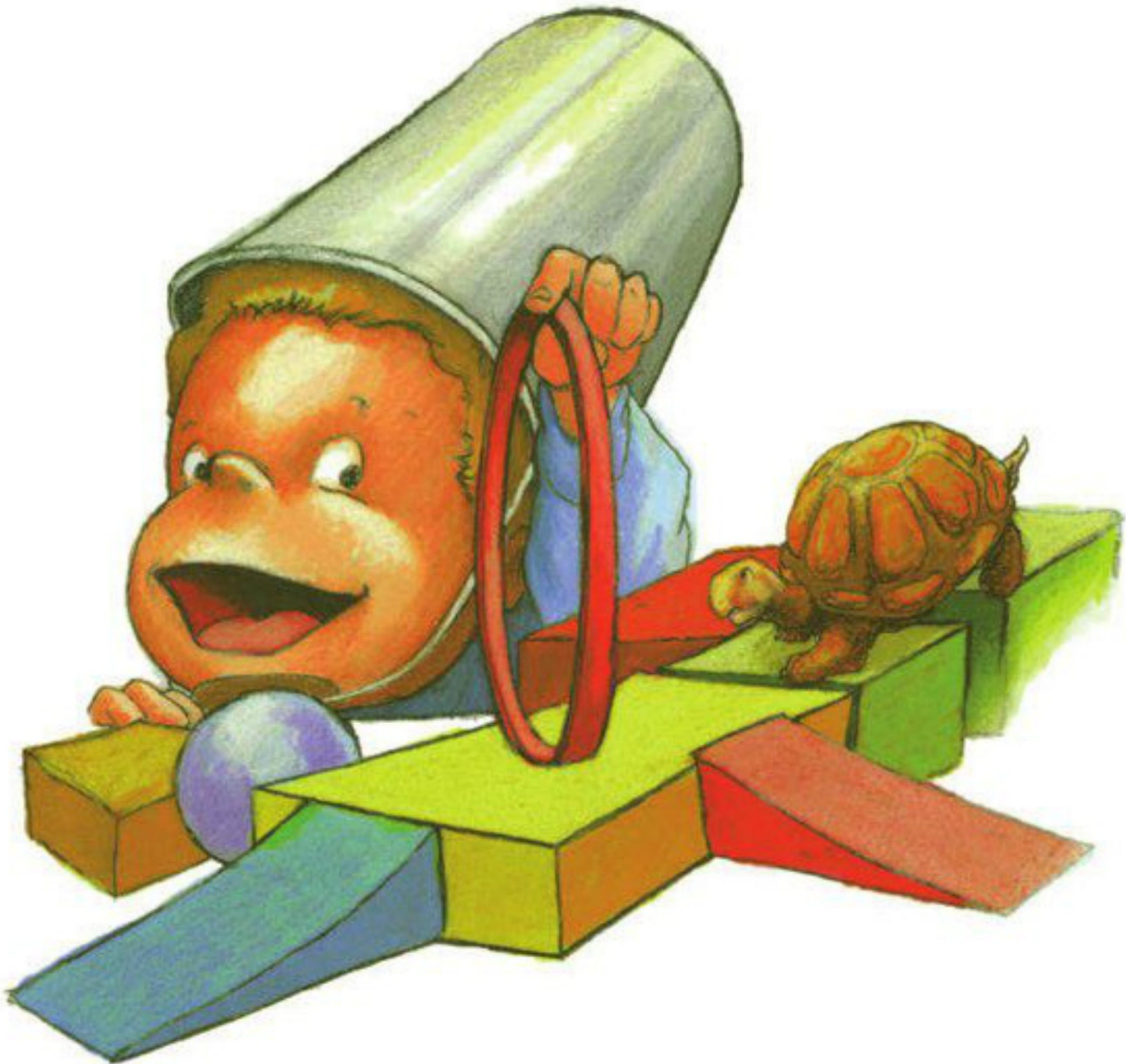
She played peekaboo,
as she crawled around.



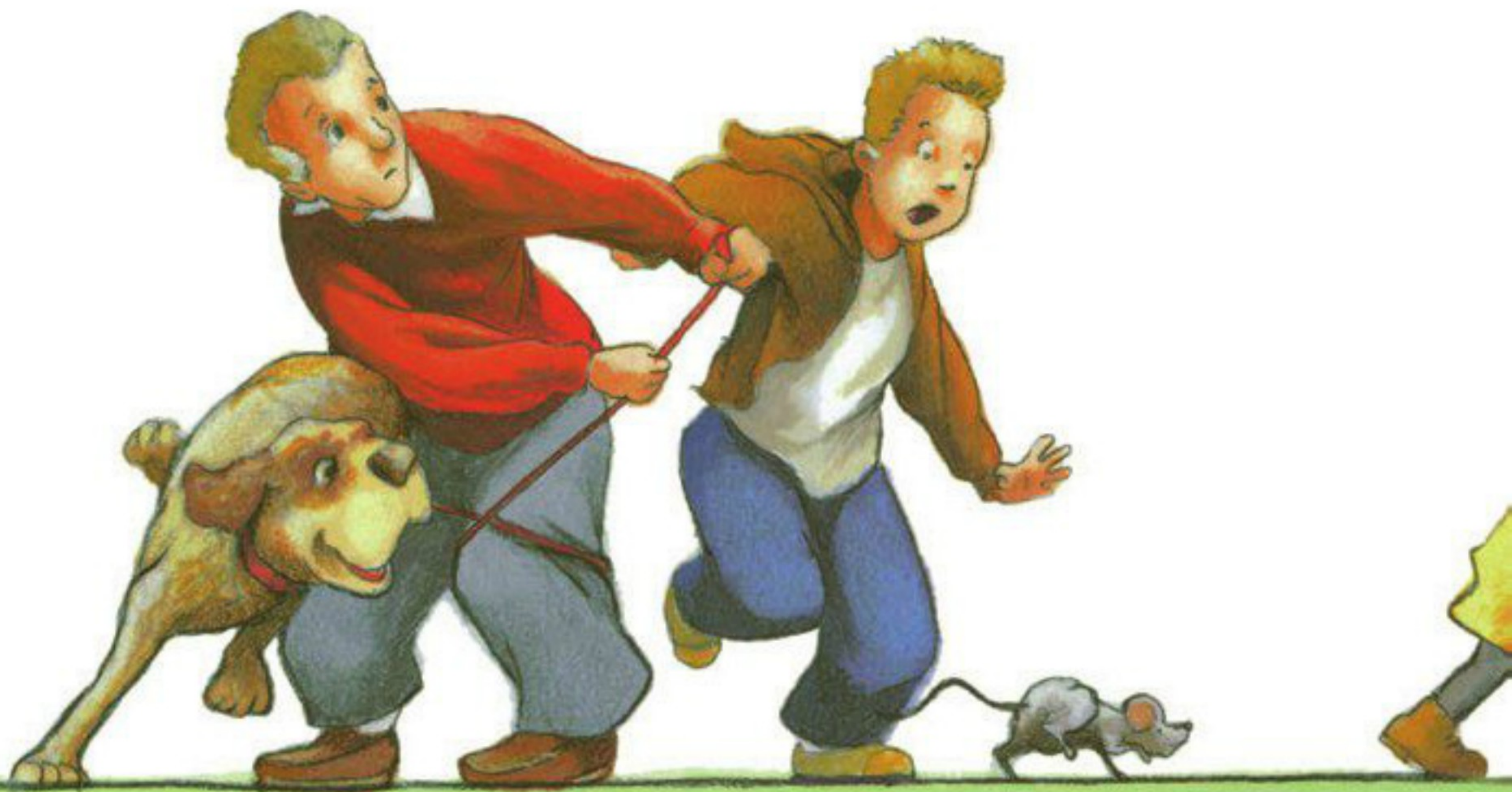
He fed her bugs and lettuce,
and he made a turtle gym.



Danny thought the turtle
was the perfect pet for him.

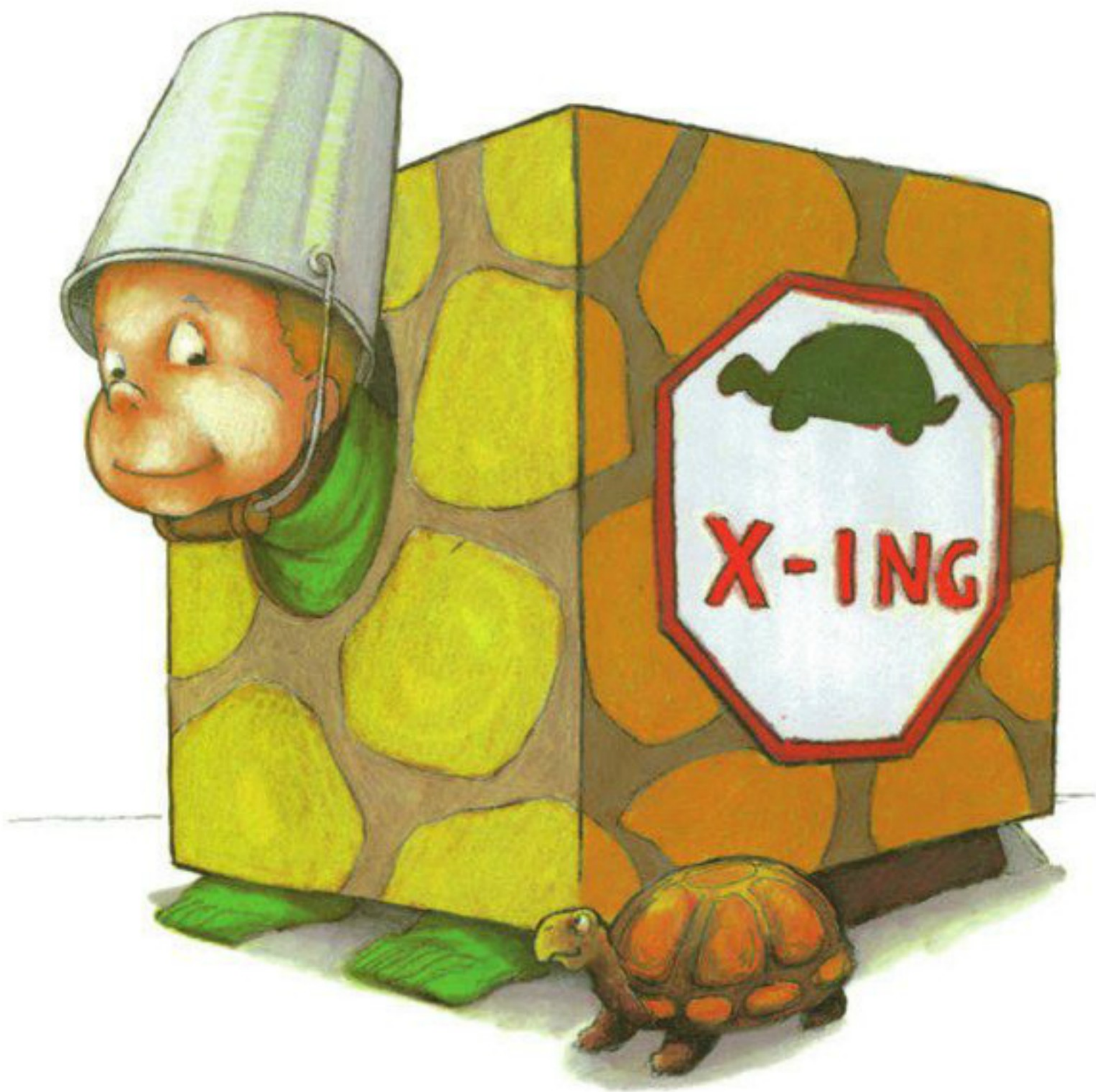


So Dad kept the dog,
his brother kept the rat,



his sister kept the bird,
and Mom kept the cat.





Danny kept the turtle,
and that was the end of that!

The Perfect Pet



Dora and Sofia go to Mr. Gill's pet store.
They are looking for the perfect pet.
They see many different kinds of animals.
Which pet will they pick?

A bird sits on Mr. Gill's shoulder.
Mr. Gill lets Dora stroke the bird's feathers.
Sofia sees a playful puppy.
It jumps and yips in its cage.



Next, Mr. Gill shows them an iguana.

Its skin is hard and scaly.

“It looks like a dinosaur,” says Sofia.

“It doesn’t look like it wants to play,” Dora adds.

Mom points to another cage.

“Now that is a special pet,” she says.



The family takes the furry hamster home.
“We can name it Racer,” says Dora.
“Look! It’s smiling at us,” Sofia laughs.
“We’ll take turns caring for Racer,” says Dora.
The girls know they have found the perfect pet!



Respond to Reading

Show the Big Book and prompt children to retell the story in their own words.

Ask children:

- What type of pet does Danny want for his birthday?
 - What kinds of pets do his family members buy him instead?
 - What does Danny like about turtles?
-

About the Author: Ellen Javernick

Growing up, Ellen Javernick went to the library so often that she was able to remember exactly where she could find almost any book. She even remembered what many of the book covers looked like! Today, as a teacher and an author, she still loves books, new and old.

About the Illustrator: Kevin O'Malley

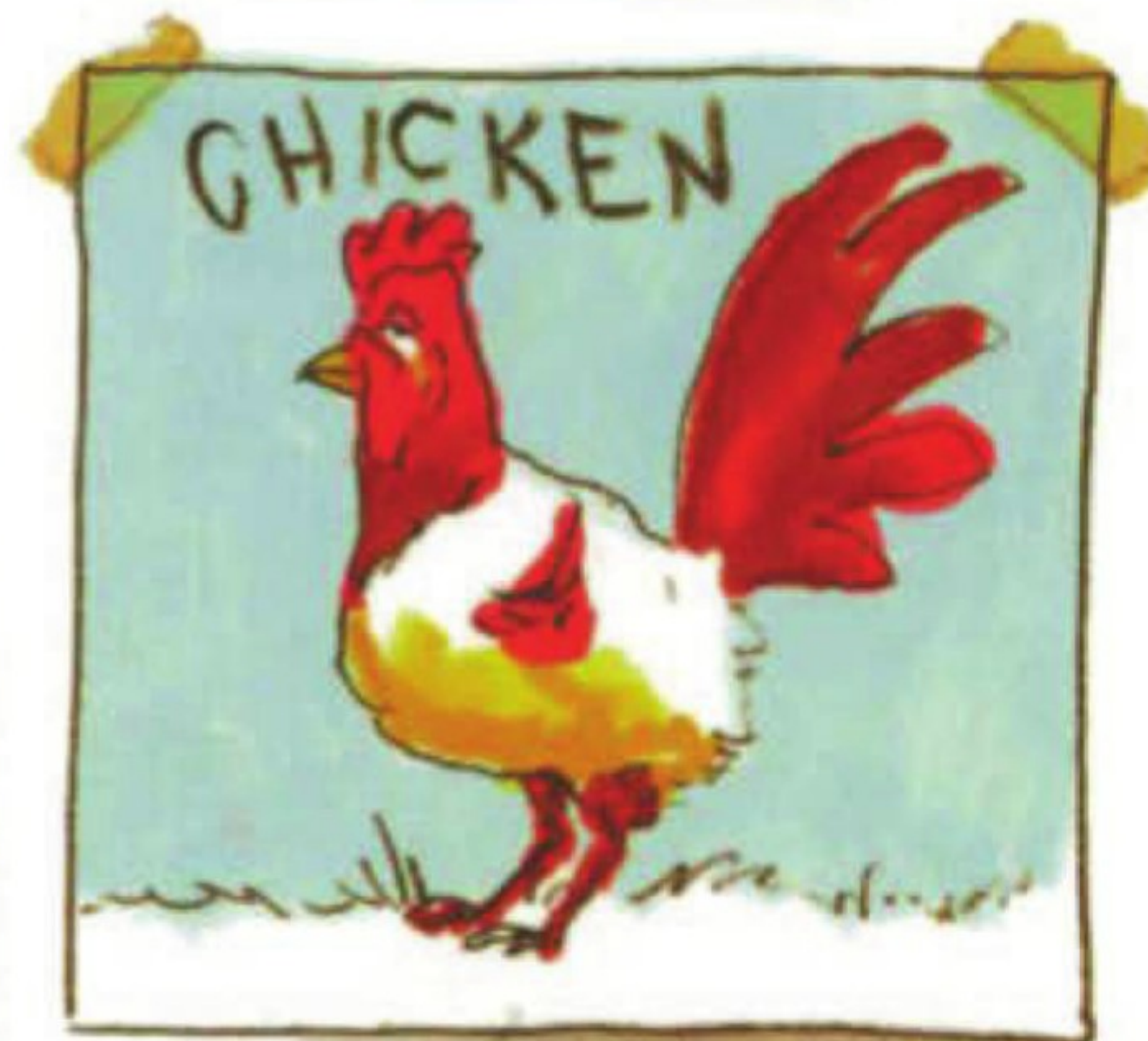
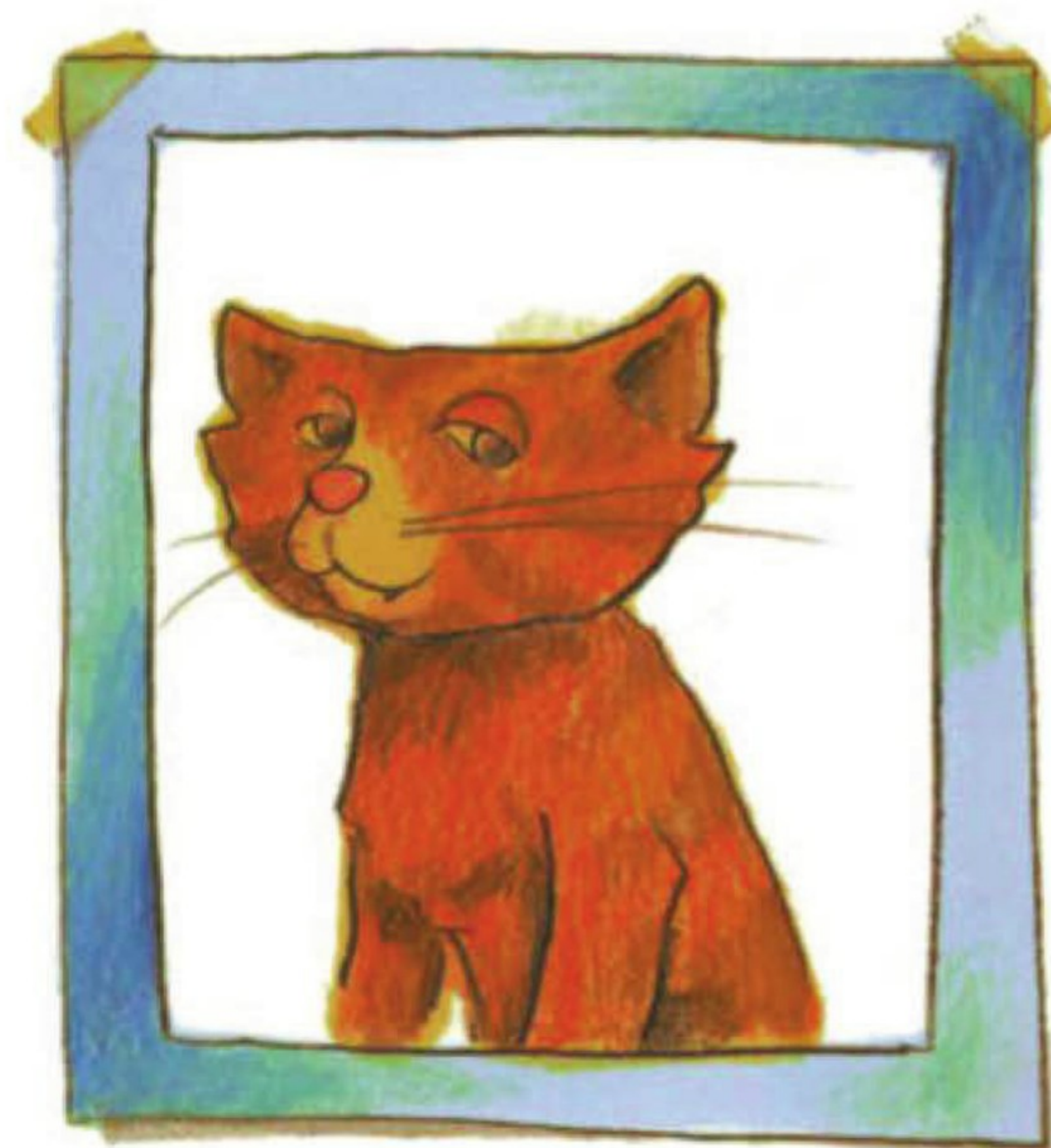
At school, Kevin O'Malley would sometimes get in trouble for acting up. His teacher would send him to the school library. There, he discovered a love for looking at books, especially the pictures. His favorite pictures were the ones that made him laugh. Now, he draws pictures that make others laugh.



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MOUSE



CHICKEN

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